

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6-7 and 9-111 are pending, and claims 4-5 and 8 are canceled.

The claims have been broadened. Entry is respectfully solicited.

Regarding support in the disclosure for the changes: The added claims are similar to the claims of the claims in the parent case which issued as US 5,696,505. Logical values are disclosed at column 3, lines 25-41.

Figures 7 and 16 are corrected to conform with the description of the figures in the patent, red line drawings for the examiner's approval accompany this amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mark-up of amended claims showing changes:

1. A record carrier having a signal recorded in a track, the signal comprising a sequence of successive information signal portions, each signal portion representing an information word wherein each of the information signal portions comprises n bit cells having a first or second logical signal-value and wherein a plurality of track information patterns represent the signal portions, characterized in that the information signal portions are spread over at least one group of a first type and at least one group of a second type, while each information signal portion belonging to a group of the first type uniquely represents an information word and each information signal portion belonging to a group of the second type in combination with the logical signal values of p bit cells at predetermined positions in a following information signal portion represent a unique information word, and in that the signal comprises sync signal portions which have bit cell patterns that do not occur in the sequence of successive information signal portions, while a unique information word is established by information signal portions of the at least one group of the second type combined with either an adjacent sync signal portion or an adjacent information signal portion, thereby allowing one information signal portion belonging to the at least one a group of the second type to represent a plurality of information words among which the respective information word is distinguishable by the signal values.

2. (amended) The record carrier as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that each number of successive bit cells having a same signal value ranges from a minimum of  $d+1$  to a maximum of  $k+1$ , and at any arbitrary point in the signal the running value of the difference between the number of bit cells having the first signal value and the bit cells having the second signal

value in the a signal portion preceding this point is limited kept low.

6. (amended) The record carrier as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the information signal portions from the at least one group of the first type end in s bit cells having a ~~first same logical signal value~~, and in that the information signal portions from the at least one group of the second type end in t bit cells having a ~~same logical second signal value~~, wherein s and t can assume different values and wherein s and t are different in value.

7. (amended) The record carrier as claimed in claim 2, wherein the track information patterns comprise first and second parts alternating in the direction of the track, the first parts presenting detectable first properties and the second parts presenting second properties distinguishable from the first properties, and wherein the parts having the first properties represent ~~bit cells having the first signal value~~ and the parts having the second properties represent ~~the bit cells having the second signal value~~.

Cancel claim 8.

9. (amended) The record carrier as claimed in claim 8 1, characterized in that the information signal portions from the at least one group of the first type end in s bit cells having a ~~same first signal value~~, and in that the information signal portions from the at least one group of the second type end in t bit cells having a ~~same second signal value~~, wherein s and t can assume different values and wherein s and t are different in value.

10. (amended) The record carrier as claimed in claim 8 1, wherein the track information patterns comprise first and second parts alternating in the direction of the track, the first parts presenting detectable first properties and the second parts presenting second properties distinguishable from the first properties, and wherein the parts having the first properties represent ~~bit cells~~ having the first signal value and the parts having the second properties represent the ~~bit cells~~ having the second signal value.

12. (amended) The record carrier as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the information signal portions from the at least one group of the first type end in s bit cells having a ~~first same logical signal value~~, and in that the information signal portions from the at least one group of the second type end in t bit cells having a ~~same second signal logical value~~, wherein s and t can assume different values and wherein s and t are different in value.

13. (amended) A The record carrier as claimed in claim 12, characterized having a signal recorded in a track, the signal comprising a sequence of successive information signal portions, each signal portion representing an information word wherein each of the information signal portions comprises n bit cells having a first or second logical value and wherein a plurality of track information patterns represent the signal portions, characterized in that the information signal portions are spread over at least one group of a first type and at least one group of a second type, while each information signal portion belonging to a group of the first type uniquely represents an information word and each information signal portion belonging to a group of the second type in combination with the logical values of p bit cells at predetermined positions in a following information signal

portion represent a unique information word, thereby allowing one information signal portion belonging to the at least one group of the second type to represent a plurality of information words among which the respective information word is distinguishable, and in that the information signal portions from the at least one group of the first type end in s bit cells having a same logical value, and in that the information signal portions from the at least one group of the second type end in t bit cells having a same logical value, wherein s and t can assume different values and wherein s and t are different in value, and in that t is greater than or equal to 2 and smaller than or equal to 5.

14. (amended) The record carrier as claimed in claim 12 13, wherein the track information patterns comprise first and second parts alternating in the direction of the track, the first parts presenting detectable first properties and the second parts presenting second properties distinguishable from the first properties, and wherein the parts having the first properties represent ~~bit cells having~~ the first signal value and the parts having the second properties represent ~~the bit cells having~~ the second signal value.

15. (amended) The record carrier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the track information patterns comprise first and second parts alternating in the direction of the track, the first parts presenting detectable first properties and the second parts presenting second properties distinguishable from the first properties, and wherein the parts having the first properties represent ~~bit cells having~~ the first signal value and the parts having the second properties represent ~~the bit cells having~~ the second signal value.